

Message Text

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ORIGIN PA-02

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 279854 TOSEC 110033

FOR TRATTNER FROM PA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith TEXT OF BARBARA WALTERS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER
20, ABC-TV EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW WITH PM BEGIN:

2. JUST BEFORE HE RETIRED FOR THE EVENING PRIME MIN-
ISTER BEGIN GAVE US AN EXCLUSIVE INTERVIEW. HE HAD
HOPED TO GO TO CAIRO, HE SAID, BUT UNDERSTOOD THE
SENSITIVITY OF THE ARABS AND WHY PRESIDENT SADAT COULD
NOT INVITE HIM AT THIS TIME. THERE WOULD BE FUTURE
MEETINGS, HE SAID, BUT MOST IMPORTANT WAS THE PLEDGE
FROM PRESIDENT SADAT. MR. PRIME MINISTER, PRESIDENT
SADAT SAID TODAY, "LET US AGREE WHATEVER HAPPENS TO
SOLVE OUR PROBLEMS THROUGH TALKS AND NOT WAR." DO YOU
NOW FEEL CONFIDENT THAT THERE WILL BE NO MORE WARS?

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3. PM PEGIN: I THINK IT IS THE TURNING POINT, BARBARA.
YOU REMEMBER WHEN I ADDRESSED THE EGYPTIAN PEOPLE I SAID
LET US GIVE A SILENT OATH TO ONE ANOTHER, NO MORE WAR,
NO MORE BLOODSHED, NO MORE THREATS, AND WE REACH
THE POINT I CAN SAY THAT PERHAPS THE ERA OF WARS IN THE
MIDDLE EAST IS PAST, LET US HOPE FOREVER.

4. WALTERS: MR. PRIME MINISTER, YESTERDAY, WHEN I TALKED TO YOU AND PRESIDENT SADAT, PRESIDENT SADAT SAID THAT HIS AMBASSADOR AND YOUR AMBASSADOR SPECIFICALLY IN WASHINGTON CAN NOW MEET AND TALK WITH EACH OTHER.

5. PM BEGIN: YES, THAT'S TRUE, YES.

6. WALTERS: HAVE YOU SO INFORMED YOUR AMBASSADOR AND IT IS NOW POSSIBLE TO MEET ...

7. PM BEGIN: AS FAR AS OUR AMBASSADOR IS CONCERNED THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEM BECAUSE OUR AMBASSADORS, BARBARA, HAVE ALWAYS BEEN READY TO MEET ARAB AMBASSADOR BUT(UNCLEAR) BACK OUR REPRESENTATIVES. NOW I HOPE THAT THE AMBASSADORS OF EGYPT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD HAVE THIS STATEMENT GIVEN THROUGH YOU. YOU ARE A GOOD WORKER OF COMMUNICATION, BARBARA, AND THEY WILL OF COURSE CARRY OUT ORDERS OF THE PRESIDENT. THIS IS ALSO A CHANGE, I THINK, IT IS A VERY POSITIVE CHANGE. THEY WILL TALK TO EACH OTHER I AM POSITIVE AND THEY WILL COME FOR A TELEVISION INTERVIEW TOGETHER. WHEN YOU GO BACK HOME, JUST TRY, MAKE AN ATTEMPT TO INVITE BOTH AMBASSADORS. FOR I AM PERFECTLY CONVINCED THAT NOT ONLY FOR YOUR SAKE BUT FOR YOUR SAKE TOO THEY WILL BE READY TO RESPOND TO YOUR INVITATION.

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8. WALTERS: GIVE ME YOUR WISDOM. WHEN WILL THE GENEVA CONFERENCE TAKE PLACE?

9. PM BEGIN: WELL, IT CAN STILL TAKE PLACE BEFORE THE YEAR 1978. IT IS NOT SURE BECAUSE TIME BECOMES SHORTER (UNCLEAR) THE LAST WEEK OF NOVEMBER.

10. WALTERS: BUT YOU THINK THAT WE WILL HAVE THE

GENEVA CONFERENCE BY AS LATE AS JANUARY OR FEBRUARY OF 1978?

11. PM BEGIN: I HOPE SO, YES. PRESIDENT SADAT ALSO EXPRESSED THIS OPINION AND I FEEL THERE IS A GOOD CHANCE THE GENEVA CONFERENCE WILL CONVENE QUITE SOON.

12. WALTERS: WAS THERE ANY DISAPPOINTMENT AT ALL THIS WEEKEND TO YOU?

13. PM BEGIN: NO. PRESIDENT SADAT TODAY SAID HE LEAVES THE COUNTRY ELATED. SO ALL IN ALL I THINK IT WAS A VERY SUCCESSFUL EVENT, A VERY MOMENTOUS VISIT BY AN

ARAB RULER WITH GOOD RESULTS. I DIDN'T HAVE ANY

DISAPPOINTMENT. ON THE CONTRARY, I SHARE HIS ELATION.

14. WALTERS: MR. BEGIN ALSO TOLD US HE WAS CALLING PRESIDENT CARTER TONIGHT TO TELL HIM THE RESULTS OF HIS TALKS.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 22-Nov-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
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Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
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